

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A controlled foaming system especially adapted for use in detergent compositions comprising:
 - (a) a foaming component capable of providing foaming or sudsing without agitation; and
 - (b) a delayed-release foam suppressing component.
2. The controlled foaming system of Claim 1, wherein the foaming component comprises an effervescent granule comprising an acid source, and carbonate and/or bicarbonate.
3. The controlled foaming system of Claim 2, wherein the delayed-release foam suppressing component is a silicone foam suppressing agent which is releasably incorporated in a carrier, thereby delaying the release of a silicone foam suppressing agent.
4. The controlled foaming system of Claim 3, wherein the silicone foam suppressing agent has an average droplet diameter of from about 1 to about 50 microns releasably incorporated in a water-soluble or water dispersible, substantially non-surface active, detergent-impermeable, and non-hydroscopic carrier, the silicone foam suppressing component being substantially free of water-soluble relatively hydroscopic inorganic salts and in the form of an irregularly shaped particle having a minimum dimension of not less than about 0.05 cm and the maximum dimension being at least about 20% greater than the minimum dimension.
5. The controlled foaming system of Claim 2, wherein the foaming component produces upon contact with water gas bubbles having an average bubble particle size of about 400 microns or less, preferably about 200 microns or less, and more preferably about 100 microns or less.
6. The controlled foaming system of Claim 2, wherein the acid source is selected from acids and hydrated or anhydrous salts of acids and is a mono or polycarboxylic acid selected from the group consisting of citric, malic, maleic, fumaric, aspartic, glutaric, tartaric, malonic, succinic or adipic acid, monosodium phosphate, boric acid, 3 chetoglutaric acid, citramalic acid, and mixtures thereof.
7. The controlled foaming system of Claim 2, wherein the efferv scent granule further comprises a binder selected from the group consisting of cellulose

5 derivatives, carboxymethylcellulose and homo- and co- polymeric polycarboxylic acid and their salts, C6-C20 alkyl and alkylaryl sulphonates and sulphates, C10-C20 alcohol ethoxylates containing from about 5 to about 100 moles of ethylene oxide per mole of alcohol, polyvinylpyrrolidones with an average molecular weight of from about 12 000 to about 700 000, polyethylene glycols with an average weight of from about 600 to about 10 000, copolymers of maleic anhydride with ethylene, methylvinyl ether, 10 methacrylic acid or acrylic acid, C10-C20 mono and diglycerol ethers, C10-C20 fatty acids and mixtures thereof.

8. The controlled foaming system of Claim 4, wherein the non-hydroscopic carrier is a polyethylene glycol carrier, the carrier further comprising from about 0.2% to about 15% fatty acid or soap having from about 10 to about 30 carbon atoms, and/or wax.

9. The controlled foaming system of Claim 2, wherein the delayed-release foaming component further comprises a suds booster selected from the group consisting of amine oxide, polyethylene glycol, monoethanol amine, diethanol amine, fatty alcohol, sugar, protein, betaine, and mixtures thereof.

10. The controlled foaming system of Claim 2, wherein the foaming component and the delayed-release foam suppressing component are independent dry particles, wherein the foaming component has an average particle size of from about 75 microns to about 2 cm.

11. A granular detergent composition comprising the controlled foaming system of Claim 1, further comprising a deterative component selected from the group consisting of surfactants, bleaches, alkali metal salt of silicate, builders, chelating agents, enzymes, fillers, soil suspending agents, optical brighteners, dispersants, soil release agents, photoactivated bleaches, dyes, dye transfer inhibitors, pigments, perfumes, clay softening system, cationic fabric softening agents, and mixtures thereof.

12. A method of cleaning and soaking fabrics, comprising contacting the fabric in a solution containing water and the granular detergent composition of Claim 11 for an effective period of time for a time sufficient to clean said fabric.